

# NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

## INFORMATION LETTER

PUBLICATION OR REPRODUCTION NOT PERMITTED

No. 408

Washington, D. C.

June 13, 1931

### CONFERENCE COMMITTEE TO MEET ON JULY 7th

The date of the joint meeting of the Canners' and Distributors' Conference Committees at Milwaukee has been changed from July 6th to July 7th.

Canners who have not already sent to the Association their suggestions with respect to the revised food guaranty are requested to forward them as promptly as possible, so that the Association's counsel can put them in form for consideration by the committee.

### LABELING SUBSTANDARD PRODUCTS FOR EXPORT

Questions asked by the Association with respect to the labeling of substandard products when they are exported are answered in the following letter which has been received from Mr. W. G. Campbell, Director of Regulatory Work of the U. S. Department of Agriculture:

I have your letter of May 5, 1931, in which you present for expression of opinion three questions:

First. Whether goods that are below the standards promulgated under the terms of the McNary-Mapes amendment would be required to be labeled in the manner announced by the Secretary in connection with the promulgation of standards for various types of canned foods when such goods are intended for export.

Second. Whether such substandard goods may be exported unlabeled.

Third. Whether such substandard goods, packed during the season of 1930, will be affected by the subsequent promulgation of standards provided it is desired to make export shipment of same.

There is a case now pending on appeal to the Circuit Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in which the Department is seeking an interpretation of the proviso contained in Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act dealing with articles of food and drugs intended for export. Pending such a determination by the courts, however, it will be necessary for the Department to take a position with respect to exports and in order that no injustice be done I feel that that position should not be one of too strict construction against the interests of the exporter.

Subject to the terms of the proviso contained in section 2, the shipment or delivery for shipment in foreign commerce of any article of food which is adulterated or misbranded would constitute a violation of the provisions of section 2 of the act and render the shipper thereof liable to such penalties as the act provides.

The proviso in section 2 sets up an exemption whereby no article shall be deemed to be misbranded or adulterated "when intended for export to any foreign country and prepared or packed according to the specifications of a foreign purchaser when no substance is used in the preparation or packing thereof in conflict with the laws of the foreign country to which said article is intended to be shipped."

Under the McNary-Mapes amendment canned foods which fall below the standard promulgated by the Secretary of Agriculture and which are not otherwise adulterated or misbranded within the meaning of the act, are nevertheless misbranded if they do not bear the statements prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture for such foods.

By reading the foregoing provisions of the act together it would appear that canned foods which fall below the standard set up by the Secretary of Agriculture, but which are not otherwise adulterated or misbranded within the meaning of the act, may be shipped in foreign commerce without bearing the statements prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture provided they are prepared or packed according to the specifications or directions of the foreign purchaser and no substance is used in the preparation or packing thereof in conflict with the laws of the foreign country to which the article is intended to be shipped.

It would seem, however, that under a proper application of the foregoing proviso, canned foods intended for export which fall below the standard promulgated by the Secretary of Agriculture, would come within its terms only when the specifications or directions of the foreign purchaser specifically provided that the label should not bear the statement prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture.

In like manner, where the foreign purchaser specifies that he desires canned foods unlabeled, I am of the opinion that where no substance has been used in the preparation or packing which is in conflict with the laws of the foreign country to which such goods are to be shipped and they are not otherwise adulterated or misbranded, they may be exported without a label.

As to the third question, the fact that the goods were packed prior to the enactment of the McNary-Mapes amendment, or prior to the date the standards promulgated thereunder are made effective, would not alter the situation with respect to the necessity for meeting the requirements thereof. In order to come within the terms of the proviso, I am of the opinion that it will be necessary for the packer to show that the goods were prepared or packed in conformity with specifications or directions of a foreign purchaser, which specifications or directions were received prior to the preparation and packing.

#### QUARTERLY STOCK SURVEY

The Foodstuffs Division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce will make its first survey of the stocks of canned foods in July, covering stocks as of July 1.

The survey will cover only canners and distributors who agree in advance to make reports promptly to the Foodstuffs Division four times a year.

Stocks of each product will be reported by canners and distributors in total number of cases of all sizes of containers.

Products to be covered will be corn, peas, tomatoes, wax and green beans, peaches, pears, pineapple and salmon.

The figures when published will show the total number of cases of each product held respectively by canners and distributors who are cooperating in the survey.

The purpose of the survey is to ascertain the trend in distribution, the relative change in stocks, and the movement of canned foods into consumption.

Canners and distributors have it in their power to increase the value and usefulness of these reports by making possible their early publication.

All canners packing products to be covered by the survey have been requested by the Foodstuffs Division to indicate their willingness to cooperate. Canners are earnestly urged to respond promptly to the Foodstuffs Division's letter on the subject.

#### REVISION OF LABELING REGULATIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION

Possibility of the revision of the labeling regulations under the Mapes amendment so as to require the appearance of the substandard legend in connection with the design of the commodity on label panels is indicated in a letter recently written by the Food and Drug Administration. In this letter the Director of Regulatory Work states:

I have your letter of May 29 enclosing several blank stock tomato labels which you have submitted for criticism from the standpoint of the requirements of the Mapes amendment. The specimens have imprinted thereon in a proper manner the substandard designation in connection with the name "tomatoes" which appears on one of the panels.

A minor criticism may be directed at the position of the substandard legend in that it is not in as close conjunction with the name "tomatoes" as is possible. I observe that the reverse panel bears the brand name, a cut of a red, ripe tomato, and the packer's name. The vignette of the tomato is the most prominent feature of this panel. While no criticism can be directed at the absence of the substandard legend on this panel of the label under the existing regulations for the enforcement of the Mapes amendment, it occurs to us that the can may be displayed to purchasers with this panel of the label forward, and the sale of the product to the ultimate consumer may be effected without the realization on his part that the article is in fact substandard. The Department is now giving consideration to a revision of the regulations for the enforcement of the Mapes amendment designed to require the appearance of the substandard legend in connection with the design of the commodity on label panels of this kind.

While the Department is not disposed to inaugurate action against labels of the kind submitted under the present terms of the regulation, the packer using these labels may wish to anticipate probable revision of the regulations and have the substandard legend printed on this panel as well as on the panel bearing the word "tomatoes."

### PRODUCTION OF CANNED PINEAPPLE IN FIJI

The summer packing season in Fiji has now closed and the total production of the two pineapple factories is reported as 21,800 cases, according to the American consul at Suva. The winter pack in July of 1931 will amount to approximately 2,200 cases, bringing the production for the canning year August 1, 1930, to July 31, 1931, up to 24,000 cases.

### CONDITION OF CANNING CROPS

The average condition of green peas for canning on June 1 was 85.6 per cent as compared with 80.5 per cent on the same date last year, according to the report of the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates issued on June 10. The condition of tomatoes for canning was 81.1 per cent as compared with 87.2 per cent last year; snap beans, 87 per cent as compared with 85.1 per cent; and sweet corn, 87.5 per cent as compared with 91.2 per cent, respectively. The figures for the various states are shown in the following tables:

State	Green Peas			Tomatoes		
	June 1, 1931	June 1, 1930	10-yr. av. June 1	June 1, 1931	June 1, 1930	10-yr. av. June 1
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
Maine .....	(a)	90	..	..	..	..
New York .....	91	97	87	81	98	86
New Jersey .....	90	58	84	86	88	82
Pennsylvania .....	88	70	83	84	88	81
N. Atlantic .....	90.8	94.5	86.8	85.0	90.5	83.1
Ohio .....	89	74	79	84	89	82
Indiana .....	85	83	82	80	85	73
Illinois .....	88	94	87	90	98	76
Michigan .....	82	90	83	90	82	81
Wisconsin .....	85	77	86	..	..	..
Minnesota .....	84	84	89	..	..	..
Iowa .....	..	..	..	87	92	80
Missouri .....	..	..	..	76	85	78
N. Central .....	85.1	79.9	85.5	80.6	80.2	75.7
Delaware .....	73	40	77	81	80	75
Maryland .....	86	41	78	80	86	80
Virginia .....	..	..	..	85	80	75
S. Atlantic .....	84.6	40.8	77.7	81.0	84.2	78.0
Kentucky .....	..	..	..	90	79	71
Tennessee .....	90	..	..	80	83	77
Mississippi .....	..	..	..	80	..	..
Arkansas .....	..	..	..	65	90	77
S. Central .....	90.0	..	..	73.8	86.5	75.6
Montana .....	86	90	..	..	..	..
Colorado .....	85	84	92	90	82	84
Utah .....	77	92	93	77	60	90
Washington .....	80	100	..	..	..	..
California .....	83	85	77	89	89	91
Far Western .....	81.1	90.8	80.5	86.7	88.9	90.4
Other States <sup>b</sup> .....	80	78	78	72	93	81
U. S. average .....	85.6	80.5	85.4	81.1	87.2	79.4

<sup>a</sup> Too early to report on condition.

<sup>b</sup> Other States include for green peas, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Virginia, and Wyoming.

State	Snap Beans			Sweet Corn		
	June 1, 1931 Pct.	June 1, 1930 Pct.	10-yr. av. June 1 Pct.	June 1, 1931 Pct.	June 1, 1930 Pct.	10-yr. av. June 1 Pct.
Maine .....	(a)	71	80	(a)	72	84
New Hampshire .....				(a)		
Vermont .....				(a)		
New York .....	98	97	81	78	96	79
Pennsylvania .....	84	69	77	81	80	82
N. Atlantic .....	93.9	88.9	80.4	78.1	86.7	80.9
Ohio .....				80	83	74
Indiana .....	83	67	70	86	91	80
Illinois .....				92	100	84
Michigan .....	90		90	(a)	100	86
Wisconsin .....	95	93	84	84	91	82
Minnesota .....				85	90	84
Iowa .....				92	92	84
Nebraska .....				92	89	87
N. Central .....	90.9	85.4	82.9	88.0	92.6	82.3
Delaware .....		87	86	85	80	80
Maryland .....	88	88	84	90	88	78
South Carolina .....	78		b 68			
S. Atlantic .....	88.0	87.8	81.3	89.6	87.2	78.2
Tennessee .....	85	76	78	86		
Mississippi .....	60	53	75			
Arkansas .....	60	76	83			
Louisiana .....	65	73	72			
S. Central .....	67.2	70.2	76.9	86.0		
Colorado .....	98	100	89			
Utah .....	90	91	90			
Washington .....	80	90	87			
Oregon .....	75	86	86			
California .....	92	92	90			
Far Western .....	89.6	93.5	88.5			
Other States c .....	87	90	78	87	85	83
U. S. average .....	87.0	85.1	81.4	87.5	91.2	81.0

a Too early to report on condition.

b Four-year average.

c Other States include for snap beans, Alabama, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas, Vermont, Virginia; for sweet corn, Colorado, Idaho, Kentucky, Missouri, Montana, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington, Wyoming.

The following notes on the condition of tomatoes accompanied the June 10th report of the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates:

NEW YORK.—Plants are now being set with practically no loss and soil conditions are good. Weather has been cold and wet.

NEW JERSEY.—Plants being set now.

PENNSYLVANIA.—Plants are not all set as yet. Conditions appear to be favorable.

OHIO.—Frost, cut worms and wet season have delayed crop but planting is going forward now.

INDIANA.—Tomato plants just being set. Cut worms doing considerable damage and replanting is necessary in several sections of the state.

ILLINOIS.—Cold wet weather has retarded growth of first plantings. The season is later than usual.

MICHIGAN.—Plants now being set. Season is late but ground is in good condition.

IOWA.—Conditions appear to be very favorable.

MISSOURI.—Season is very late and some frosts are reported. Plants are scarce in some localities.

DELAWARE.—Weather has been cool and plants are not all set.

MARYLAND.—Cold wet weather has greatly delayed setting of plants in fields and cut worms are doing some damage. Plants appear to be plentiful.

VIRGINIA.—Transplanting of tomato plants about 10 days late, due to cool weather. Cut worms are doing some damage, but on the whole conditions appear to be favorable.

KENTUCKY AND TENNESSEE.—Conditions appear to be favorable at this time.

ARKANSAS.—Unusually cold spring has retarded growth of plant—cut worms are doing quite a bit of damage and replanting is necessary in several sections of the state. Plants are very scarce.

UTAH.—Not through setting plants. Frost and hail have caused considerable replanting. The crop will be late.

CALIFORNIA.—The cannery acreage, which had practically all been set to the fields, was suffering from the dry, hot winds of the middle of May. Recent rains, however, were of material benefit and brightened up prospects considerably.

#### FRUIT CROP PROSPECTS

The June crop report of the U. S. Department of Agriculture furnishes the following information on fruit crop prospects.

APPLES.—Present prospects in practically all sections of the country are quite favorable for a large apple crop in 1931, although no forecast of the actual quantity is available at this time. The June 1 condition is reported to be 75.7 per cent of normal, which is very much better than either the June 1 condition last year or the average of the preceding ten years, 56.8 and 68.2 per cent, respectively. Compared with last year, present conditions in the northeastern and the western states are slightly higher, but in the central and southern states they give promise of exceptional production in contrast with the short crop of a year ago.

APRICOTS.—The June 1 condition of apricots in California was 80 per cent of normal, as compared with 57 per cent a year ago and an average of 62 per cent for the preceding ten years. The crop, on basis of June 1 conditions, is forecast at 251,000 tons.

CHERRIES.—The June 1 condition in ten states for which total production is annually estimated is reported at 67 per cent of normal, compared with 59 per cent on June 1 last year and 63 per cent the year before. In the principal eastern and central states, the crop appears to have more favorable chances than a year ago, with the exception of sour cherries in New York, which are lower in condition than last year, due largely to frosts in early May. The crop in the western states, except California, indicates a generally less promising outlook than in either of the past two years, chiefly due to frost and wind damage and in some areas, poor pollination. On the basis of June 1 conditions, the crop in Wisconsin is forecast at 7,470 tons; Utah, 3,600 tons; California, 23,500 tons.

PEACHES.—Peach prospects in ten southern states indicate a probable production of 18,651,000 bushels, which is slightly larger than was forecast a month ago. Last year 10,173,000 bushels were produced in these ten states. For the country as a whole, the June 1 condition is reported at 78.5 per cent of normal, compared with 47.1 per cent on June 1 a year ago and 64.3, the average of the previous ten years. The condition indicates a total



peach crop of 78,091,000 bushels which, if it materializes, will be 46 per cent larger than last year's production. The 1930 crop was slightly below the average of the previous five years.

**PEARS.**—June 1 condition of pears is reported to be 61.4 per cent, or somewhat lower than a year ago and below the average for June 1 the preceding ten years. For the present, indications are for a production of 23,572,000 bushels this year compared with 27,577,000 last year and 22,123,000, the average crop of the preceding five years. Conditions are comparatively low in all sections of the country except the southeast. The present prospect is much better than last year in the central and southern states, but is appreciably lower than on June 1 a year ago in the important eastern and western states. The crop in the Pacific northwest was damaged by freezes and high winds and has suffered from lack of water.

**PLUMS AND PRUNES.**—Conditions are extremely variable in different localities in Washington and Oregon. While June 1 condition is reported moderately better than a year ago in the Northwest, it is substantially lower than two years ago. A combination of weather factors—frost, wind and dust storms—is held accountable for damage. Lower condition is reported for drying prunes than for the fresh crop. In California, a relatively good crop of plums is expected, but prune production will be much less than the large crop of 1930.

#### TRUCK CROP NOTES

Reports on the acreage and prospective production of various truck crops, issued by the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates, are summarized in the following paragraphs:

**BEETS.**—There are 607,000 bushels of beets forecast for this season in the intermediate group of states as compared with 795,000 bushels in 1930, a decrease of 24 per cent.

**CABBAGE.**—A production 21 per cent larger than the 1930 crop is forecast for the intermediate group of states.

**CANTALOUPE.**—Compared with the 1930 acreage, plantings in the second early states are estimated to be about one-fifth larger and in the intermediate states about one-eighth larger.

**CARROTS.**—The estimate of acreage for the intermediate group of states is 9 per cent below the 1930 acreage. The average yield per acre is expected to be lower and the forecast of production 26 per cent below last year's crop.

**CUCUMBERS.**—There is an estimated decrease of 10 per cent in the acreage for harvest in the second early states compared with acreage harvested last year. The indicated yield per acre, however, is more than twice as large as the very low yield of 1930 and the production is expected to be 110 per cent larger than last year's crop.

**GREEN PEAS.**—As compared with last year's crop, present conditions indicate increases in the production this year amounting to 55 per cent in the second group of states, intermediate states, and 20 per cent in the first group of late states.

**GREEN PEPPERS.**—Preliminary estimates of acreage for the 1931 crop indicate a decrease of 31 per cent in the second early group and an increase of 7 per cent in the intermediate group of states. In the second early states, the indicated production is 20 per cent smaller than in 1930.

**LIMA BEANS.**—Estimated acreage for the early group of states is 36 per cent smaller than the 1930 acreage and the expected production 16 per cent smaller.

**SNAP BEANS.**—Forecasts of production for the two groups of intermediate states indicate decreases below last year's production of 20 per cent in the first groups and 2 per cent in the second group.

#### TESTING CANNED PEAS FOR HARDNESS

Because there is a test for hardness in the standard for canned peas under the McNary-Mapes amendment, this matter is of immediate interest to all pea canners. As this test is new, some canners fear that the former methods used in judging peas may not in all cases detect small proportions of hard peas in their canned product.

So far as known by our laboratory, peas that are hard are also relatively heavy. Canned peas that will float in a liquid having a specific gravity of 1.10 will not be "hard," according to the standard set. A large proportion of the canned peas packed will float in a solution of 1.10 gravity and do not need to be tested for hardness. The following simple test will be helpful to those who are grading canned peas for hardness:

Dissolve 20 ounces of salt in water and make to 1 gallon. This solution will have a specific gravity of approximately 1.10. Put one-half cupful of this salt solution into a glass dish about 3 inches in diameter. Put 2 heaping tablespoons of the drained peas into this salt solution. Gently stir the peas that float for a few seconds, so that all heavy peas will have an opportunity to sink.

If none of the peas sink, further testing is not necessary. If more than two or three peas sink, quickly skim off those peas which float and pour off the brine from those which sink. Not all of the peas that will sink in such a salt solution will be hard, according to the standard set. Each of the peas that sink should be tested separately for hardness. It is believed that those who are familiar with canned peas will be able to tell, by tasting the peas which sink in the salt solution, whether they are really hard peas.

A direct comparison by taste of the peas that float with those that sink is also helpful.

#### TRUCK CROP MARKETS

Combined forwardings of 36 fruits and vegetables increased considerably to 20,860 cars for the week ended June 6, or about 900 cars more than during the same period last spring. Cantaloupes still required 1,820 cars and forwardings of similar melons from Imperial Valley greatly increased. Strawberry shipments decreased slightly to 1,185 cars. Tomatoes dropped sharply to 1,250 cars, but are soon due to increase with the opening of other important shipping districts.

The 1931 season for apples began with 2 cars from northern California and 2 from Illinois. California cherry output was



down to 150 cars, and the first car of the season moved from Idaho. Shipments of peaches had become quite active, but were only half as heavy as a year ago. California started 40 cars, Georgia 45, and Mississippi and Alabama a few cars. Plums and prunes from California increased to 360 cars for the seven-day period; this is one-half more cars than moved during early June, 1930.

Movement of snap beans increased further to 770 cars for the week, chiefly from North and South Carolina, Louisiana and Mississippi. Alabama originated 215 cars of cucumbers, South Carolina 150 and Florida 80 cars. Carrot shipments increased to more than 50 cars daily, mostly from California. Forwardings of green peas were down to 300 cars, with Virginia, North Carolina and California the chief sources.

## CARLOT SHIPMENTS

Commodity	May 31- June 6 1931	May 24-30 1931	June 1-7 1930	Total this season thru June 6	Total last season thru June 7	Total last season
Apples:						
1931 season	4		2	4	2	100,070
1930 season	336	278	258	100,070	102,373	102,801
Asparagus	46	56	40	3,619	2,667	2,789
Beans, snap and lima	772	667	684	6,856	7,092	9,550
Beets	79	61		1,439		
Cabbage	643	602	674	17,657	14,873	38,298
Carrots	382	287	276	8,087	8,711	12,286
Cauliflower	2	7	2	9,573	9,535	9,535
Cherries	148	188	270	1,032	829	2,575
Cucumbers	543	424	830	2,827	3,519	7,643
Corn, green	280	220		706		
Mixed vegetables	579	565	794	16,974	17,130	31,043
Mixed deciduous fruit	146	110	67	312	91	5,901
Peaches	89	38	180	131	198	38,461
Pears	12	14	1	28,833	21,147	21,147
Peas, green	298	415	26	4,484	3,587	6,800
Peppers	50	47	162	1,796	1,508	2,794
Plums and prunes	364	270	240	690	408	8,712
Spinach	5	8	2	9,293	9,380	9,636
Strawberries	1,427	1,722	598	13,446	11,309	11,854
Tomatoes	1,247	1,888	2,491	8,968	11,988	33,506

## WEATHER CONDITIONS

Very little rain occurred in the South during the week ended June 9, except in the eastern Carolinas and parts of Arkansas and Oklahoma. In most Gulf sections the week was practically rainless, according to the weekly report of the U. S. Weather Bureau. On the other hand, the amounts were substantial to heavy rather generally in the Northeast, the lower Lake region, the northern Ohio Valley, and from the upper Mississippi Valley westward to the Rocky Mountains. In the northern Great Plains, including Montana, showers were spotted and moisture is still scanty in most sections. West of the Rocky

Mountains no rain fell in the north and only local showers in central and southern districts.

From the Mississippi Valley eastward temperatures were rather too low for best growth of warm-weather crops, and there is a rather general need of rain in the Northwest and much of the South, but otherwise the weather was favorable for agricultural interests. Showers to generous precipitation were especially helpful over a large area of the interior, including the east-central Great Plains, the northern half of the Mississippi Valley, the Ohio Valley, and the lower Lake region, while good, soaking rains were received in the Northeast as far south as Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Rain is needed in the South for many crops, especially truck, gardens and pastures, but the warmer weather was helpful wherever there is sufficient moisture. Many localities, however, are dry as far north as parts of southern Kentucky and east to South Carolina and western North Carolina. In most Southern states the May rainfall was considerably below normal, and June, so far, has been mostly dry.

#### CALIFORNIA CLING PEACH CROP SURVEY

California's crop of canning peaches is estimated to be between 25,000 and 30,000 tons below last year, according to an announcement on June 1 by the Cling Peach Crop Survey Committee. The 1931 and 1930 estimates, by varieties, are as follows:

	1930 Tons	1931 Tons
Tuscans .....	85,901	60,475
Midsummers .....	190,978	212,883
Phillips .....	185,781	176,239
Miscellaneous .....	13,447	10,614
Total .....	485,107	400,211

Cling peaches to the amount of 5,843 acres were reported dug out or abandoned, which accounted for 31,158 tons of the 1930 estimated production. Tuscans represented nearly half of this decrease.

The 1931 crop survey indicates that the peak of production of cling peaches in California has probably been reached and may have been passed with the record crop of 1930, when conditions were ideal for crop development.

In its release the Peach Crop Survey Committee emphasized that the estimates are based on conditions as they appear at this time. Shortage of water, heat conditions, and various factors favorable and unfavorable to normal crop development may change the situation materially before the crop is harvested.

## DEPARTMENT STORE SALES IN MAY

Preliminary figures on the volume of department store sales show a decrease of 6 per cent from April to May on an average daily basis. The Federal Reserve Board's index, which makes allowance both for number of business days and for usual seasonal changes, was 95 in May, on the basis of the 1923-1925 average as 100, compared with 106 in April and 97 in March. In comparison with a year ago the value of sales for May, according to the preliminary figures, was 14 per cent smaller, and the aggregate for the first five months of the year was 9 per cent smaller.

## BUSINESS INDICATORS

(Weeks ended Saturday, weekly average 1923-1925 = 100)

	1931			1930		
	June 6	May 30	May 23	June 7	May 31	May 24
General business:*						
New York Times .....		76.7	a76.4	93.1	93.7	93.5
Business week .....		77.9	a77.9	91.3	93.0	95.0
Freight car loadings .....		74.2	75.8	97.6	89.7	97.0
Wholesale prices (Fisher's):						
All commodities .....	70.0	70.3	71.0	87.6	87.8	88.4
Agricultural products .....	60.4	60.3	60.9	91.2	91.6	93.2
Non-agricultural products .....	73.2	73.7	74.0	85.4	85.6	85.6
Bank debits outside New York City .....	101.3	89.8	99.9	107.9	113.1	121.6
Bond prices .....	105.1	106.3	106.7	106.4	106.4	106.3
Stock prices .....	123.8	126.0	131.0	230.0	234.1	231.7
Interest rates:						
Call money .....	36.4	36.4	36.4	72.7	72.7	72.7
Time money .....	38.2	40.0	40.0	85.7	88.6	88.6
Business failures .....	111.5	129.7	126.3	119.2	102.2	117.9

\* Relative to a computed normal taken as 100.

a Revised.

## CAR LOADINGS

	Total	Miscellaneous	Merchandise	
			L. C. L.	Other
Week ended May 30 .....	710,934	281,633	197,242	232,059
Preceding week .....	755,071	298,441	222,300	234,330
Corresponding week, 1930 .....	800,064	341,251	215,735	303,078
Corresponding week, 1929 .....	972,825	384,153	231,466	357,195

## WILL INVESTIGATE CANDIED FRUITS

An investigation of fruits, candied, crystallized or glace, was ordered by the U. S. Tariff Commission on June 5th. No date was set for the public hearing, of which 30 days notice will be given when the date is determined.

## UPHOLDS OPPOSITION TO TRADE-MARK

In an opinion reversing the decision of the Commissioner of Patents, the Court of Customs and Patent Appeals has sustained the opposition to the registration of "Breast O Chicken" by the owner of the mark "Chicken of the Sea." In his opinion Judge Hatfield states:

"Although there is nothing in the record to establish affirmatively that appellee designedly simulated appellant's trade mark, nevertheless, considering the similarity of the marks and other facts and circumstances of record, it would seem to be clear that the use by appellee of its trade mark concurrently with the use by appellant of its trade mark would cause confusion in the mind of the public and would result in appellee trading on appellant's good will and popularity, with corresponding damage to both the public and appellant."

#### ITALIAN CHERRY CROP PROSPECTS FOR 1931

Genoese exporters of cherries in brine state that prospects point to a very light harvest in Italy, according to the American vice consul. Crops are reported to have been severely damaged by unfavorable weather conditions. The 1931 production of cherries in brine is expected to be below that of last year, which was a bad year, producing only about 70,000 barrels (220 pounds to the barrel), as compared with 115,000 barrels during 1929.

#### PRODUCTION OF CANNED PEAS IN ENGLAND

According to information contained in the May 21, 1931, issue of "Weekly Canned Fruit Notes," the 1930 pack in England of home-grown peas amounted to about 14,150,000 cans, although this figure may include a small proportion of canned dried peas, as compared with an output in 1929 of 5,196,000 cans and a 1928 total of 1,493,000 cans. Thus between 1928 and 1930 there was almost a ten-fold expansion in the British pack of peas.

In addition, slightly over 1,000,000 cans of other vegetables were produced. Canned beans comprised about 25 per cent of this total, the remainder consisting of various vegetables such as canned carrots, turnips, spinach, beetroot, etc.

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